

## **DEPARTMENTAL BUDGET INFORMATION 36TH DISTRICT COURT (60)**

### **STATEMENT OF PURPOSE**

The 36<sup>th</sup> District Court is to administer justice with fairness, equality and integrity, resolve matters before the court in a timely manner with trained and motivated staff, and provide courteous and prompt service in a manner that inspires public trust and confidence.

### **DESCRIPTION**

The 36<sup>th</sup> District Court is a limited jurisdiction court serving the City of Detroit. The Court has exclusive jurisdiction in all litigation up to \$25,000 and handles small claims and landlord/tenant proceedings. The 36<sup>th</sup> District Court handles a large volume of civil infraction traffic violations, drunk driving, misdemeanor and felony arraignments, and some parking violations, among various other court responsibilities. Criminal jurisdiction includes all misdemeanor criminal offenses and preliminary examination of felony offenses. Annual case filings exceed 450,000, the majority of which are handled in the Traffic and Ordinance Division. Michigan's largest limited jurisdiction court, the 36<sup>th</sup> District Court has 31 judges, 6 magistrates, and over 400 employees at a single location in downtown Detroit. The 36<sup>th</sup> District Court is one of the busiest courts in the nation. On a monthly basis more than 160,000 citizens conduct business at the court and in excess of 65,000 telephone inquiries are received.

### **MAJOR INITIATIVES FOR FY 2007-08**

The 36<sup>th</sup> District Court's Main focus this fiscal year is on obtaining sufficient funding to

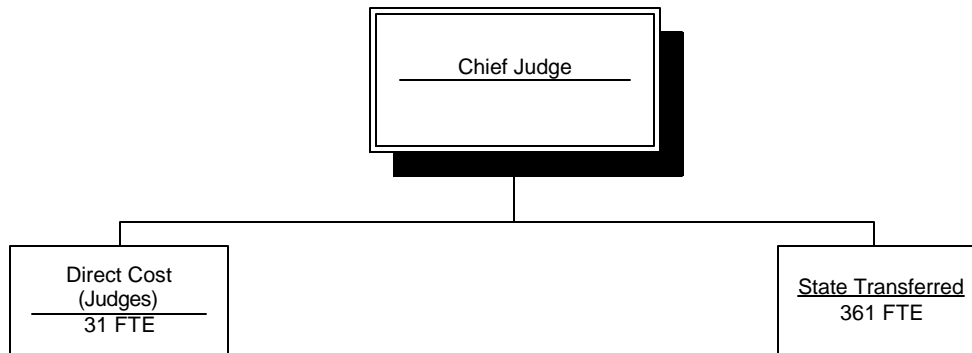
maintain the court at full operation, fill current vacancies, purchase technologies that will improve court operations, provide speedy and efficient service to the public, and meet Michigan Supreme Court's Administrative Order 2003-7 time guidelines for the adjudication of cases. For the past several years, the Court has experienced the challenge of continuing court operations while facing significant reductions in appropriations. As a result, the court has instituted a hiring freeze, eliminated all but essential overtime, and postponed the purchase of new technologies.

### **PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE FOR FY 2008-09, FY 2009-10 and BEYOND**

In the future, the 36<sup>th</sup> District Court plans to introduce new technologies that improve the timeliness and effectiveness of court operations. One of these new technologies we would like to utilize at the 36<sup>th</sup> District Court is imaging equipment. The use of imaging equipment would improve court operations by providing the Court with the means to electronically scan traffic tickets into the computer system. This process would improve the Court's effectiveness and reduce costs by eliminating the need to manually enter each ticket into the database.

The 36<sup>th</sup> District Court continues to hold its vision of becoming nationally recognized as a leader in providing innovative, cost effective and efficient administration of justice. One of the most cost effective ways to materialize this vision is through the use of technology. By using technology, the Court will not only enhance internal processes but also provide better services to the community

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**PERFORMANCE GOALS, MEASURES AND TARGETS**

<b>Type of Performance Measure:</b>	<b>2006-07</b>	<b>2007-08</b>	<b>2008-09</b>
List of Measures	Actual	Projection	Target
<b>Output: Units of Activity directed towards Goals</b>			
Felony	12,048	12,650	13,283
Misdemeanor	90,978	95,527	100,303
Civil Infractions	8,306	8,721	9,157
Misdemeanors and Civil Infractions	200,173	210,182	220,691
Operating under the Influence of Liquor (OUI/OWI)	3,864	4,057	4,260
General	58,586	61,515	64,591
Small Claims	4,496	4,721	4,957
Real Estate	<u>42,016</u>	<u>44,117</u>	<u>46,323</u>
Total Cases	420,467	441,490	463,565

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**EXPENDITURES**

	2006-07 Actual Expense	2007-08 Redbook	2008-09 Mayor's Budget Rec	Variance	Variance Percent
Salary & Wages	\$ 20,082,575	\$ 18,019,461	\$ 18,703,784	684,323	4%
Employee Benefits	10,918,424	12,905,464	11,633,293	(1,272,171)	-10%
Prof/Contractual	1,784,049	2,161,050	2,234,380	73,330	3%
Operating Supplies	386,472	500,000	480,000	(20,000)	-4%
Operating Services	9,567,514	10,206,985	10,149,861	(57,124)	-1%
Capital Equipment	189,159	67,000	103,450	36,450	54%
Other Expenses	890,322	886,573	962,872	76,299	9%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 43,818,515</b>	<b>\$ 44,746,533</b>	<b>\$ 44,267,640</b>	<b>\$ (478,893)</b>	<b>-1%</b>
<b>POSITIONS</b>	<b>420</b>	<b>392</b>	<b>392</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>0%</b>

**REVENUES**

	2006-07 Actual Revenue	2007-08 Redbook	2008-09 Mayor's Budget Rec	Variance	Variance Percent
Fines/Forfeits/Penalties	\$ 7,773,265	\$ 10,700,000	\$ 8,600,000	\$ (2,100,000)	-20%
Grants/Shared Taxes	980,312	826,578	843,110	16,532	2%
Sales & Charges	11,734,074	11,506,377	12,046,127	539,750	5%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 20,487,651</b>	<b>\$ 23,032,955</b>	<b>\$ 21,489,237</b>	<b>\$ (1,543,718)</b>	<b>-7%</b>

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